

## Message Text

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66

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01

/058 W

----- 122392

R 221527Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9521

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USIA WASHDC

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DEPT. PASS SAIGON IF DESIRED

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, VN, VS

SUBJ: SOVIET MEDIA ON THIEUS RESIGNATION AND DANANG "LIBERATION"

REF: MOSCOW 5525

1. SOVIET MEDIA REPORTED IN NOTABLY LOW-KEY SVN PRESIDENT THIEU'S RESIGNATION AND HIS REPLACEMENT BY VICE PRESIDENT TRAN VAN HUONG. ON THE MAIN TELEVISION NEWS PARIL 21, THE ONE-SENTENCE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS FOLLOWED BY A COMMENT THAT THIS IS A FURTHER SIGN THAT THE REGIME IS ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE. THE TASS ITEM IN PRAVDA (APRIL 22) SAYS THAT

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THE MOVE IS AN ATTEMPT BY THE REGIME TO HOLD ONTO

POWER. (COMMENT: THIS SOVIET TREATMENT, WHILE CAUTIOUS, OF COURSE REFLECTS INITIAL PRG STATEMENTS IMPLYING THAT HUONG MAY BE UNACCEPTABLE AS AN INTERIM LEADER IN PLACE OF THIEU.)

2. IZVESTIYA (APRIL 21) CARRIED A COMMENTARY FROM DANANG BY COMMENTATOR IL'INSKIY, FOLLOWING A SIMILAR COMMENTARY IN SUNDAY'S PRAVDA (REFTEL). IL'INSKIY'S ARTICLE EMPHASIZES THE PROBLEMS OF ADMINISTERING THE CITY AND THE ALLEGED SENSE OF RELIEF OF THE PEOPLE FOLLOWING THEIR "LIBERATION." IL'INSKIY REPEATS THE FIGURE USED BY PRAVDA OF 109,600 SAIGON FORCES WHO ALLEGEDLY SURRENDERED IN DANANG. HE ALSO INTERVIEWED THE SISTER-IN-LAW OF FORMER EMPEROR BAO DAI WHO REPORTEDLY SPOKE ABOUT THE UNFOUNDED ANXIETIES REGARDING A "VIETCONG" TAKEOVER. SHE SAID THAT ONE OF HER HOUSES, RENTED TO AMERICANS, HAD BEEN BURNED BY THEM BEFORE THEIR EVACUATION, AS THEY TRIED TO DESTROY DOCUMENTS. SHE ALSO DESCRIBED LOOTING AND RAPING BY GVN SOLDIERS AS THEY FLED THE CITY. IL'INSKIY ALSO INTERVIEWED A CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP NGUYEN KUANG SUEN (PHONETIC) WHO CLAIMED THAT THE NEW AUTHORITIES HAD A "GOOD RELATIONSHIP TOWARD BELIEVERS." THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY CITING A LOCAL POET WHO COMPARES THE PEOPLE'S YEARNING FOR REVOLUTION WITH A FLOWER SEEKING THE SUN.

3. A PHOTO IN PRAVDA APRIL 22 PURPORTEDLY SHOWED SMILING CITIZENS OF DANANG TALKING WITH "LIBERATION" SOLDIERS.  
STOESSEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 22 APR 1975  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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